

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

Control: 18267

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Info

Rec'd: OCTOBER 25, 1962  
2:26 PM

SS

FROM: NEW YORK

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TO: Secretary of State

SP

NO: 1458, OCTOBER 24, 2 PM

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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REVIEWED by John DATE 5/19/68

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( RELEASE) ( DECLASSIFY)  
( EXCISE) ( DECLASSIFY in PART)  
( DENY) ( Non-responsive info.)

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FOI, EO or PA exemptions \_\_\_\_\_ TS authority to \_\_\_\_\_

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( CLASSIFY as \_\_\_\_\_, OADR)

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( DOWNGRADE TS to ( S or ( C, OADR)

RMR

RE CUBA

FOLLOWING IS SECOND MESSAGE FROM SYG TO PRESIDENT JUST  
DELIVERED TO ME:

"DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR,

I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD BE SO KIND AS TO TRANSMIT  
THE ENCLOSED MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED  
STATES JOHN F. KENNEDY."

"MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY

"I HAVE TODAY SENT A FURTHER MESSAGE TO CHAIRMAN KHRUSHCHEV  
EXPRESSING MY GRAVE CONCERN THAT SOVIET SHIPS ALREADY ON  
THEIR WAY TO CUBA MIGHT CHALLENGE THE QUARANTINE IMPOSED BY  
YOUR GOVERNMENT AND PRODUCE A CONFRONTATION AT SEA BETWEEN  
SOVIET SHIPS AND UNITED STATES VESSELS, WHICH COULD LEAD TO AN  
AGGRAVATION OF THE SITUATION. I HAVE ALSO STATED THAT WHAT  
CONCERN ME MOST IS THE FACT THAT SUCH A CONFRONTATION AND  
CONSEQUENT AGGRAVATION OF THE SITUATION WOULD DESTROY ANY  
POSSIBILITY OF THE DISCUSSIONS THAT I HAVE SUGGESTED AS  
A PRELUDE TO NEGOTIATIONS ON A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. I HAVE  
ACCORDINGLY EXPRESSED TO HIM MY EARNEST HOPE THAT SOVIET SHIPS

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-2- 1458, OCTOBER 24, 2 PM, FROM NEW YORK

ALREADY ON THEIR WAY TO CUBA MIGHT BE INSTRUCTED TO STAY AWAY FROM THE INTERCEPTION AREA FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY, IN ORDER TO PERMIT DISCUSSIONS OF THE MODALITIES OF A POSSIBLE AGREEMENT WHICH COULD SETTLE THE PROBLEM PEACEFULLY IN LINE WITH THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

"IN CONTINUATION OF MY MESSAGE OF YESTERDAY AND MY SPEECH BEFORE THE SECURITY COUNCIL, I WOULD NOW LIKE TO APPEAL TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT INSTRUCTIONS MAY BE ISSUED TO UNITED STATES VESSELS IN THE CARIBBEAN TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO AVOID DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH SOVIET SHIPS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE THE RISK OF ANY UNTOWARD INCIDENT. IF I COULD BE INFORMED OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY YOUR GOVERNMENT ON THE BASIS OF THIS APPEAL, I COULD INFORM CHAIRMAN KHRUSHCHEV THAT I HAVE ASSURANCES FROM YOUR SIDE OF YOUR COOPERATION IN AVOIDING ALL RISK OF AN UNTOWARD INCIDENT. I WOULD EXPRESS THE FURTHER HOPE THAT SUCH COOPERATION COULD BE THE PRELUDE TO A QUICK AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON THE BASIS OF WHICH THE QUARANTINE MEASURES THEMSELVES COULD BE CALLED OFF AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

"U THANT ACTING SECRETARY-GENERAL."

STEVENSON

BAP

NOTE: PASSED WHITE HOUSE 10/25/62.

NOTE: Advance copy 10, SS-0 1:15 PM 10/25/CWO-JSW?

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